



LARC



Volume 57, Number 2

ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC., INC.

February 2017

President's Message

Recently, I learned the importance of the standard non-rechargeable battery. My lesson began when the power adapter for my Beaufong died and would no longer charge the included battery. Well, I had every intention of ordering a new radio but kept postponing the purchase. Meanwhile, a storm decided to pay our community a visit and it was time to check into the SkyWarn net.

I optimistically assumed that my radio had enough power remaining to make it through the net, but after a few short minutes the electronic voice announced that I indeed had a "low battery." It was now time to start thinking and so I channeled my inner HAM and pulled out the double A's and the aluminum foil.

I first calculated how many AA's it would take to match the voltage required by the BaoFeng and used small strips of foil to form a series of 5 batteries which came to 7.5V. I then took two wires which acted as leads to carry the charge from the batteries to the radio and taped one end of each to the makeshift battery pack. Now that I had power it was time to turn my attention to the radio itself.

Before connecting the assembled battery pack it, was absolutely necessary to determine the polarity of the connection. After all, digital electronics don't tend to cooperate when you reverse their polarities.

I figured it would be quite easy to determine the polarity based on the remaining charge in the rechargeable battery, but to my surprise, that was not the case. I had to use the millivolt setting on my multimeter and only then I was scarcely (0.5mV) able to locate the neutral. Once I did, I marked the contact with a piece of tape.

After close inspection of the spring loaded internal contacts it became clear to me that I would need to use the rechargeable battery as some type of clamp to keep the leads in place. It was at this time I carefully covered the contacts on the rechargeable battery to ensure that there was no power transfer between the now thoroughly discharged rechargeable battery and my homemade battery pack.

My original connection attempt was to run the wires to either side of the radio and slide the original battery pack in place, but that did not work as planned. It proved nearly impossible to align the leads with the relatively small contacts within the radio housing.

With a storm approaching and my newfound challenge fully underway I looked to aluminum foil in front for a more manageable solution. I used two quarter inch wide strips of foil and after carefully folding it as to not tear the foil I successfully created to traces coming from the internal contacts out to the back of rechargeable battery.

This provided a much larger surface to try to attach the leads.

Once everything was connected together I learned the single most difficult aspect of this makeshift power pack and that was keeping everything connected. Although the radio powered on and received without any trouble the slightest tap interrupt the power and the radio would restart. But, for that day and time it served its purpose well. I was once again able to receive the net and stay informed of any impending dangers.

I later modified the ends of the leads to form loops instead of straight wires as it made a better contact with the ends of the batteries and allowed me to create a knot with the foil. This improved connection method stabilized the connection enough to transport the radio, but also proved unreliable for long-term use.

Overall, it was a fun project, and I learned the importance of backup batteries. I have since ordered a replacement radio, an additional rechargeable battery, and an adapter that takes standard AA batteries which I'll keep close at hand next time I hear those magic words, "low battery."

Eric Credeur KG5JHP
AARA President

AARA GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, February 2, 2017 @ 7:00 PM at the Lafayette Science Museum, 433 Jefferson St., Lafayette, Louisiana. Enter the double glass doors on E. Congress St. & Polk St.

This would be a good time to pay your 2017-2018 AARA membership dues.

Don't forget, if you would like to volunteer to help with the AARA Hamfest in Rayne on March 10 & 11, please contact Galen Wilson KF5BET or Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP.

DATES TO REMEMBER**GENERAL MEETING**

February 2, 2017 @ 7:00 PM
 Lafayette Science Museum
 433 Jefferson St. Lafayette, LA
 VE Testing @ 6:00 PM
<http://www/w5ddl.org/clubsite/>

Local 2-Meter Nets**Monday**

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM
 Repeater Rotation - See calendar on page 7.

Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM
 145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

Wednesday

Silent Key Memorial Net
 145.410 No PL New Iberia, LA

Thursday

Youth Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2015 - 2016

President - Eric Credeur KG5JHP
eric@ericcredeur.com
Vice Pres. - Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD
Secretary - Ramona Jobe KG5HNO
Treasurer - Tom Dischler W5OHJ

BOARD MEMBERS

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP
 Ric Wallace KF5KEL
 Archie Hill W5AG
 Kendra Wilson KF5FYS
QSL MANAGER
 Roland Guidry - NA5Q

NEWSLETTER EDITOR & PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
 Herman Campbell - KN5GRK
 337-234-5364 kn5grk@lusfiber.net

AARA REPEATER GROUP
 Charlie Morrison N5WE - Trustee
 Derek Meche WM5TS
 Dave Redfern N4ELM
 Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

LCARC DELEGATES
 Fred Marshall W5MLE
 Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

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 P. O. Box 51174
 Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

JANUARY 5, 2017 AARA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The January 5th Board Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Eric Credeur KG5JHP.

Board members included, Ric Wallace KF5KEL, Glenn Thibodeaux KF5FNP, Larry Leblanc KE5KJD, Tom Dischler W5OHJ, Herman Campbell KN5GRK, and Ramona Jobe KG5HNO.

Tom gave a budget report from 2016 and a proposed budget for 2017. We need to go over the budget and decide when we are going to present it to the club members for approval.

Steve Weber AF5VR will handle the radio give away for the new members as follows:

Pass your Technician test and join the AARA club and you will be entered into the drawing for a hand held radio.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm

Ramona Jobe KG5HNO
 AARA Secretary

JANUARY 5, 2017 AARA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The January 5th AARA General Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Eric Credeur KG5JHP. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in English and French. The December 2016 minutes were voted on and accepted from the last meeting. Tom W5OHJ, Club Treasurer, gave a year-end treasurer's report to the club members. The treasurer's report was accepted by the members of the club.

The Officer Nominating Committee announced their nominations for the upcoming 2017-2018 year as follows:

President - Eric Credeur KG5JHP
V. President - Larry Leblanc KEKJD

Secretary - Ramona Jobe KG5HNO
Treasurer - Tom Dischler W5OHJ
Board 1 - Sandra Leblanc KE5KJF
Board 2 - Paula Romero KF5CNS
Board 3 - Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

At the February meeting, nominations will be taken from the floor, elections held and new officers will be installed at the March meeting the Saturday after the AARA Hamfest.

The president will also need to appoint a new Youth Member to take Kendra Wilson's KF5FYS place since she recently turned 18.

Glenn Thibodeaux KF5FNP, talked about the upcoming hamfest and what we need to do in order to have a successful hamfest. He will be asking for volunteers to fill the different positions during hamfest. More information will be forthcoming next month as to what the tickets will be along with the admission and times of the hamfest.

A new technician class will begin January 17 at the Lafayette Science Museum and should conclude right before the hamfest. Testing will be held as usual at the hamfest on Saturday, March 11, 2017.

Larry Leblanc KE5KJD, gave handouts to new members of an antenna presentation that Paul Scallan K5VSH gave to the club about a year or so ago.

Door prizes were given out and the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes taken by,

Ramona
 KG5HNO

**Fred Cook
KE5LP**



Photo by Mel WD5CAE - 2005 Hamfest

Fred Cook KE5LP - Silent Key

It is with our deepest sorrow that we have lost one of our longtime members of the Acadiana Amateur Association, Inc.

Fred Cook KE5LP became a Silent Key on January 20, 2017 at the age of 79 after loosing a battle with cancer.

A Memorial Service was held Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 11:00 am at Fountain Memorial Funeral Home in Lafayette.

Fred was born December 8, 1937 in Springfield, IL and was a long-time resident of Lafayette. He graduated from Salem Community High School in 1955 and later graduated from Southern Illinois University, obtaining an associate degree in Technology. He was a volunteer fireman in Salem, IL for 10 years. Fred worked as an Automation and Communication Manager for Texaco for 35 years. Following retirement from Texaco, he was employed with DataCom until 2015. Fred was a parishioner of Asbury United Methodist Church in Lafayette.

Fred's first love was flying an airplane, obtaining his private pilot's license at Leckrone Field, Salem, IL when he was 17 years of age. His second love was his wife, Betty Maxey Cook K5BMC, whom he married December, 22 1957, in Salem, IL.

Fred enjoyed being involved in the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association and various other activities in the community. For many years, Fred served as Master of Ceremonies at our annual AARA Hamfest. Fred was first licensed in 1963 as WN9HPS as a Novice and later WB5LBI as a General and then KE5LP when upgraded to Advanced. He joined the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) Chapter 109 in 1988. He enjoyed boating and fishing at his camp at Toledo Bend Lake. Most of all, Fred loved spending time with his family and friends.

Fred is survived by his beloved wife of 59 years, Betty M. Cook of Lafayette; two sons, Fred Robert Cook, Jr. and his wife, Kerri of Lafayette and Brian Matthew Cook of Houma; two grandsons, Robert Andrew Cook and Charles Blake Cook and numerous dear friends.

Proposed Slate of Officers 2017-2018

The Officer Nominating Committee came up with the following slate of proposed member that would like to run for office for the 2017-2018 year.

President KG5JHP Eric Credeur
Vice President KE5KJD Larry LeBlanc
Secretary KG5HNO Ramona Jobe
Treasury W5OHJ Tom Dischler
Board Member KF5FNP Glen Thibodeaux
Board Member KG5MCY Chris Ancelet
Board Member KF5CNS Paula Romero
Youth Member KG5VPR Paige Romero
KG5AYI Sam Haviland
LARC Editor KN5GRK Herman Campbell
AARA Public Info Officer KN5GRK Herman Campbell
QLS & Website Mgr. NA5Q Roland Guidry

Nominations from the floor will be taken at the February 2nd General Meeting and elections will be held, new officers will be inducted at the Saturday March 18th Hamfest Banquet meeting.

You must be a paid up member in good standing to be eligible to vote.



ARES Region 4 New Appointments

Things are moving forward in ARES Region 4:

Tom Dischler W5OHJ has been appointed Region 4 Assistant District Emergency Coordinator. In addition he will also assume the following positions:

Region 4 Public Information Officer AEC Acadia Parish.

Jonathan Meyers K3JAX has been appointed Region 4 Assistant District Emergency Coordinator. Jon also just upgraded his Ham Ticket to EXTRA.

Chris Ancelet KG5MCY has been appointed Acadia Parish Emergency Coordinator.

ARES Region 4 is moving forward.... Grab on and join the fun!

HAM RADIO OPERATORS CAN HAVE MORE THAN ONE HOBBY

by Ramona KG5HNO & Herman KN5GRK



Melvin Simon WD5CAE of New Iberia, Louisiana enjoys a little sideline hobby. He makes call letter plaques for many of his ham radio friends.

A little background on Mel:

Mel built his first Heathkit receiver back in 1954. One day Park Ogden K5UNZ invited him to a code class in 1962 and he went, tested, and received his Novice license WN5NDX. Things like jobs, marriage, family, etc. got in the way and his ham radio hobby was put on hold for a while. His Novice license expired but he finally got it back into ham radio in 1970 and now

Before he retired, Mel had a job as a traveling salesman stocking numerous places around Louisiana setting and stocking sun-glass displays. While in his travels, he would talk to other hams from his mobile radio which enabled to get to know a lot of hams.

He also knows where all the good restaurants and coffee shops are located. hi hi

In 1972 he started making ham radio call sign plaques for extra money but then he decided to just do it as a hobby. These plaques are given to hams free of charge, how he determines who will get one is a trade secret. Since that time, he has made about 400 + plaques. It takes about 5 weeks from beginning to end. The plaques are made out of various woods he picks up here and there. He looks for woods that have a unique grains which makes all plaques "SPECIAL". Usually he makes these in the spring and fall when the weather is more favorable for working in his shop. Maybe you are one privileged to own one. Below you will find some samples of his talent.

"I feel very lucky to have one of these hanging in my Ham shack and it is a constant reminder of what you can do if you try". My wife Esther (N5YOP) and I live south of New Iberia La. near where Tabasco hot sauce is made.

My operating setup is: A TenTec Orion II, My backup rig is a Yaesu FT991, AN MFJ 998 auto tuner. My amplifier is an AL 82. I also run an old boat anchor rig. Currently it is a Yaesu FT-102. Antennas are a 4-element Explorer 14 - 10, 15, 17 20, & 40 meter beam at 48'. A 4 element Yagi for 6 meters at 35 ft. Inv "V" for 80-40 meters. For VHF/UFH, I use an 11 element 2 meter Yagi at 55'. I also use an 8 element Quad at 30' for 2 meter sideband and a vertical for 440 at 60'.

I enjoy rag chewing, light contesting, Light House hunting, working special event stations and evening 75 meter nets. Modes include: CW, SSB, FM, BPSK, and SSTV. Hope to visit with you on the air.

You can usually find Mel at most of the Hamfest along the Louisiana Coast with his camera and smile on his face.





JANUARY 2017 VE TEST RESULTS

Seems as though we started the year off on a good foot with several upgrades and a newbie. The normal great crew of VE's were present & this group consisted of: Greg ~ K5LFT, Bret ~ KG5IQU, Galen ~ KF5BET, John ~ W4HVH & our brand new and welcomed VE Ms Kendra Wilson ~ KF5FYS.

Those upgrading to General were: Gary Hurston KG5QKG of Lafayette, LA., Caine Richard KG5PUL of Carencro, LA. & David B. Allen KG5RGH of Lafayette, LA went from no ticket to General.

Those going to Amateur Extra were: Demian Neidetcher W6DLN of Lafayette, LA & Billy Decker KG5OUH of Lafayette, LA.

Pretty good start to for the year. I know there are others eager to upgrade and I am sure this will be their year for this accomplishment. Congratulations to all & thanks for joining us as Amateur Radio Operators.....

73, de Greg ~ K5LF & a T

Amateur Radio Parity Act Speeds to US House Passage, Heads to US Senate

Just 10 days after being introduced in the 115th Congress, the 2017 Amateur Radio Parity Act legislation, H.R. 555, passed the US House of Representatives on unanimous consent under a suspension of House rules. The bill's language is identical to that of the 2015 measure, H.R. 1301, which won House approval late last summer after attracting 126 cosponsors, but failed to clear the US Senate last fall as the 114th Congress wound down. The new bill, again sponsored by Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), was launched on January 13 with initial cosponsorship by Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT) and Rep. Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), who chairs the influential House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

"The grassroots effort of Amateur Radio operators across this nation in support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act has been remarkable, nothing like we have ever seen before," ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said. "To all hams, keep going! Now is the time to charge forward with that same momentum to the Senate. We can do it!" The bill arrives in the US Senate with ample time in which to garner its approval through an education campaign.

"We're very encouraged by the speed with which this bill made it through the House. It's amazing that this happened," said ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, who has been at the forefront of the legislative initiative. "With the help of ARRL members, we believe we can get this done," Lisenco continued. "We came within a hair's breadth last time, with [thousands of] e-mails to members of both houses of Congress, as well as letters and telephone calls. Member participation in this final push is critical."

H.R. 555 calls on the FCC to establish rules prohibiting the application of deed restrictions that preclude Amateur Radio communications on their face or as applied. Deed restrictions would have to impose the minimum practicable restriction on Amateur Radio communications to accomplish the lawful purposes of homeowners associations seeking to enforce the restriction.



57th AARA Hamfest in Rayne, LA - March 10 & 11, 2017

If you are planning to make this hamfest, there are a few things you might need to know in advance.

1. If you pre-register, your admission is only \$5.00, at the door it will be \$8.00 - you save \$3.00. Both prices include 1 free raffle ticket. This is for both days Friday & Saturday. Deadline is March 6, 2017.
2. Crawfish Boil & Fais Do Do (Cajun music and dancing) - Friday evening at 1800. If you plan to attend, you need to pre-register before March 6, 2017. Price is \$24.00 for a 4 pounds serving, if the price goes down, you may get more than 4 pounds, this includes potato and corn. The crawfish is assured to be the best.
3. RV Accommodations - Those arriving between March 7 & March 12, call at the Rayne City Hall (337) 334-3121 upon arrival in Rayne and request a parking space. Inform them that you are with the AARA Hamfest. Someone will meet with you to assign a parking space for your RV.
4. Schedule of Events - both days can be found at: <http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/schedule.htm>
5. Table Rental Info - can be found at: <http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/tables.htm>
6. VE Testing Info - Saturday at 0900 - see website for details at: <http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/vetesting.htm>
Pre-Registration - <http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/Files/AARA%20hamfest%20pre-registration%20form.pdf>

ICS - 100, 200, and 700 Class

Rayne Hamfest

Friday March 10th



Take the ICS classes and attend the Rayne Hamfest on the same day!

The Acadiana Amateur Radio Association will be hosting an introductory **ICS INCIDENT COMMAND TRAINING CLASS**.

If you plan to assist in any way with emergency communications, disaster preparations, or disaster relief pre or post event, taking this course is the first step. Most EOC's, OHSEP offices, FEMA and NGO now require anyone working with them to have completed ICS-100, 200, and 700 certification. These courses are open to anyone, civilians, law enforcement, firemen, Red Cross and Salvation Army volunteers, HAM Radio operators, ARES members, military personnel, etc. This is your chance to take ICS- 100, 200, and 700 in a class room setting instead of sitting in front of a computer for hours plus you get to meet like minded individuals. However, you must take the test online for certification.

Your instructor will be L.E. "Skip" Breeden AB5SB. Skip is a GOHSEP approved instructor, has over 30 years emergency management experience, and has been on the ground for events ranging from Hurricane Andrew 1992 to Isaac 2012.

ICS Course details:

Date – Friday March 10th.

Time - 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM (with lunch break) **Hamfest is open from 3:00 PM to 8:00PM**

Cost of class – Free!

Location - "Green Room" Rayne Civic Center, 300 Frog Festival Drive, Rayne LA 70578

Link with map-- <http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/festmap.htm>

Max. Number of students - 25

Class reservations close March 8th.

For reservations contact - Glen Thibodeaux, cell- 337-288-0122 or email KF5FNP@cox.net

ICS Class and Rayne Hamfest Friday March 10th. Hamfest and other forums, such as SKYWARN, continues on Saturday March 11th.

Our website with all our Hamfest information is: www.w5ddl.org

Thanks,
Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP
KF5FNP@cox.net
cell 337-288-0122
home 337-886-2244



**Governor's Office of
Homeland Security
& Emergency Preparedness**

JANUARY 2017 AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
AARA Monday Night Net	5	95	Ø	154	KE5HSY Linda
Acadiana ARES Net	5	78	2	227	KN5GRK Herman
Silent Key Memorial Net	4	40	Ø	71	KG5HNO Ramona
Youth Thursday Night Net	3	57	Ø	183	KF5BEW Abbi KF5FYS Kendra

WHY whenever I sit down to work, someone wakes me up?

AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net Rotation

Linda Breaux KE5HSY is the new AARA Monday Night Manager and she will be setting up the net rotations in the future. Each Monday will have a rotating NCS as listed below. Here is the February 2017 rotation list.

DATE:	TIME:	REPEATER:	PL TONE:	NCS
02/06/2017	7:00 PM	145.410	NONE	Danny KD5JSM
02/13/2017	7:00 PM	443.000 W5DDL	103.5	Paul N5KNY
02/20/2017	7:00 PM	146.820 W5DDL	103.5	Eric KG5JHP
02/27/2017	7:00 PM	147.040 W5EXI	103.5	Chris KG5MCY

When using the SkyWarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL Tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8.

The February 2017 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website at:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/news/htm>

**UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS**

2/03	N5NVP	JIM
2/04	KB5WI	WESTON
2/12	KD5NVC	GLENN
2/18	AF5VR	STEVE
2/21	KG5GKF	JOHN
2/14	KD5JSM	DANNY
3/05	KG5PHK	DONALD
3/05	KG5PHJ	EUGENE
3/06	KG5JTB	SONJA

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.

CALL FOR CLUB SHIRT ORDERS

We will place an order for AARA club shirts, in February, and try to have them here for the AARA Hamfest in March.

Please have your size, style shirt and payment for the FEBRUARY MEETING.

Henley, polo collared shirts will be \$27.00 each and T shirts will be \$23.00 Each.

Jackie Wallace KF5PCH will take orders till February 2nd, and place the bulk order then.

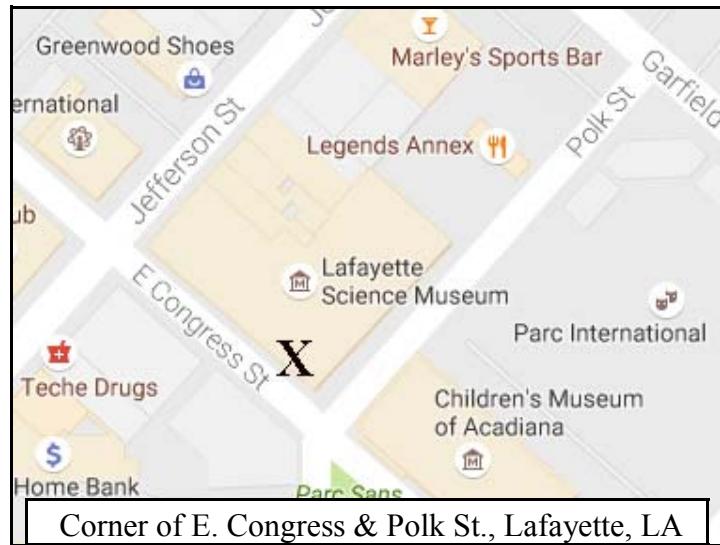
If you have any questions, please contact Jackie.

Jackie Wallace KF5PCH
jackie@theturtle.info



FEBRUARY 28

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174
Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun -
Bring a Friend to be a
HAM !



Corner of E. Congress & Polk St., Lafayette, LA

AARA GENERAL MEETING
Thursday February 2, 2017 - 7:00 PM
VE Testing Tonight @ 6:00 PM
Lafayette Science Museum
Check 146.820 PL 103.5 - repeater for info.

**COMPLIMENTARY
ISSUE**

BEER-BRAISED CABBAGE WITH BACON

Submitted by Paul Scallan, Sr. K5VSH

Ingredients:

6 strips of bacon, fried	1 12 ounce bottle or can of beer (any kind)
1 cup (1 medium) chopped yellow onion	salt and ground black pepper
1 medium green cabbage, quartered, cored and thinly sliced	

Directions:

1. Fry bacon and transfer to paper towels. Crumble or slice thinly.
2. Pour off all the bacon fat, reserving 1 tablespoon.
3. In a Dutch oven, place the 1 tablespoon of bacon fat and the onions, +/- 1/2 teaspoon salt & +/- 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Sauté for 5 minutes or until golden. Add the cabbage and toss occasionally in the pot on med.- hi. Heat for about 4 minutes or until the cabbage begins to wilt and is well mixed with the onions.
4. Pour in the beer and bring to a simmer over med.- hi heat, then simmer for 30 minutes, covered with cracked lid, stirring occasionally, until the cabbage is tender and most of the liquid is evaporated.
5. Crumble the bacon into the pot and stir. Serve hot or warm.

FCC Information Service

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 1-888-225-5322. This will connect you to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

ulscomm@fcc.gov.

FCC Website:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission,
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554